# CIVIL WAR™

MARK MILLAR

STEVE MCNIVEN

DEXTER VINES

MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

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# WHOSE SIDE...
# ...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. IN THE WAKE OF A TRAGEDY, CAPITOL HILL PROPOSES THE SUPER HERO REGISTRATION ACT, REQUIRING ALL COSTUMED HEROES TO UNMASK THEMSELVES BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT. DIVIDED, THE NATION'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS MUST EACH DECIDE HOW TO REACT—A DECISION THAT WILL ALTER THE COURSE OF THEIR LIVES FOREVER!

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CONTROL ROOM, WTNH-CHANNEL 8:

OKAY, HOW MANY SUPER-VILLAINS ARE WE *TALKING* HERE, SPEEDBALL?

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT:

THREE. NO, WAIT. I THINK I SEE COLDHEART IN THE BACKYARD EMPTYING THE TRASH. THAT'S *FOUR* OF 'EM IN TOTAL, AND ALL FOUR ARE ON THE *FBI MOST-WANTED LIST*, RIGHT?

COBALT MAN, COLDHEART, SPEEDFREEK, NITRO...YEP, THEY ALL BROKE OUT OF RYKER'S THREE MONTHS BACK, AND ALL OF THEM HAVE RECORDS AS LONG AS YOUR ARM.

COLDHEART FOUGHT SPIDER-MAN A COUPLE OF TIMES AND--GET THIS--SPEEDFREEK ALMOST TOOK DOWN *THE HULK.*

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HE WHAT?

THESE GUYS ARE TOTALLY OUT OF OUR LEAGUE, MAN. NO WAY WE SHOULD BE GOING IN THERE.

BUT THINK ABOUT THE RATINGS, MICROBE. THIS COULD BE THE BEST EPISODE OF THE ENTIRE SECOND SEASON.

NEW WARRIORS

SIX MONTHS WE'VE BEEN DRIVING AROUND THE MIDWEST LOOKING FOR GOOFBALLS TO FIGHT, AND THE BEST WE'VE MANAGED SO FAR WAS A BUM WITH A SPRAY CAN AND A WOODEN LEG.

THIS COULD BE THE EPISODE THAT REALLY PUTS NEW WARRIORS ON THE MAP, DUDE. WE BEAT THESE GUYS AND PEOPLE STOP BITCHING ABOUT NOVA LEAVING THE SHOW TO GO BACK INTO SPACE.

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?

THE PLAN IS YOU SPEND FIVE MORE MINUTES IN MAKEUP, NAMORITA. YOU THINK PEOPLE WANNA SEE THAT GREAT BIG UGLY ZIT ON YOUR CHIN?

THEN WE--

UH-OH.

WHASSUP?

WE'VE BEEN MARKED.

EVERYONE IN COSTUME!

IT'S A RAID!

GO!

HOLY f@%&!

OOF!

I'D *HEARD* THAT CLOTHES MAKE THE MAN, SPEEDFREEK...

YOU'VE WON A BRAND NEW CA

FINAL

...AND IN YOUR CASE IT'S *TOTALLY TRUE!*

UNGH!

SOUND WAS OFF FOR A SECOND THERE, BUD. ANY CHANCE OF THAT LAST PART AGAIN?

STARK

SURE THING.

AND IN YOUR CASE IT'S TOTALLY TRUE, CHUCKLES!

UNGH!

WAIT A MINUTE. I KNOW YOU GUYS. YOU'RE THOSE IDIOTS FROM THAT *REALITY SHOW.* I'M NOT GETTING TAKEN DOWN BY *GOLDFISH-GIRL* AND *THE BONDAGE QUEEN.*

BEG TO DIFFER, COLDHEART.

COULD WE CUT OUT THE PART WHERE SHE CALLED ME *THE BONDAGE QUEEN?*

OH, YEAH. BECAUSE *NIGHT THRASHER* SOUNDS *SO* MUCH *STRAIGHTER.*

GOT MY BACTERIAL BEASTIES RUSTING *COBALT MAN* IF ANYONE WANTS TO TRACK DOWN THAT OLD *CAPTAIN MARVEL* VILLAIN.

NOT TO WORRY, MICROBE...

...I'M *ON* IT.

ON YOUR *FEET*, NITRO. AND DON'T TRY ANY OF YOUR STUPID EXPLOSIONS BECAUSE THAT'S ONLY GOING TO MAKE ME *HIT* YOU HARDER.

NAMORITA, RIGHT? AREN'T YOU THE SUB-MARINER'S *COUSIN* OR SOMETHING? WELL, I'M AFRAID WE'RE NOT THE BARGAIN BASEMENT LOSERS YOU GUYS ARE *USED* TO, BABY...

SCHOOLBUS

...YOU'RE PLAYING WITH THE *BIG BOYS* NOW.

# CIVIL WAR

## PART ONE OF SEVEN

I'M TOLD THEY'VE GOT A LEAD ON NITRO. WORD IS HE SNEAKED OUT OF TOWN IN THE BACK OF A PICKUP TRUCK.

DOES IT MATTER?

ALL THESE CHILDREN, TONY. THE F.E.M.A. CHIEF SAID THERE COULD BE EIGHT OR NINE HUNDRED CASUALTIES. ALL DEAD FOR A STUPID REALITY TV SHOW.

THEY SHOULD HAVE CALLED US, CAP. SPEEDBALL KNEW THE NEW WARRIORS WERE OUT OF THEIR LEAGUE.

THE WHOLE COUNTRY SAW THE TAPE WHERE THEY SAID THEY WERE ONLY CHASING RATINGS.

MARVEL GIRL! CYCLOPS! WE NEED SOME HELP OVER HERE. MOTION DETECTORS ARE PICKING SOMETHING UP TWENTY FEET DOWN, BUT WE HAVEN'T GOT OUR DIGGERS YET.

EVERYBODY BACK. CLEAR A LITTLE SPACE, HUH?

CAN YOU HANDLE THIS ON YOUR OWN, RACHEL?

I CAN *HANDLE* IT, SCOTT.

SIX MORE SURVIVORS OVER BY THE SCHOOL'S NORTH SIDE. BRING BLANKETS AND A DEFIBRILLATOR.

YOU *GOTTA* BE KIDDIN' ME.

M-MOMMY?

IT'S OKAY, HONEY. THEY AREN'T GOING TO HURT YOU. THE SENTINELS ARE ONLY HERE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE X-MEN FOR US. THEY'RE THE *GOOD GUYS.*

WE VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH A *FEDERAL EMERGENCY* AND YOU'RE *STILL* FOLLOWING US AROUND?

JUST DOIN' OUR *JOBS*, WOLVERINE.

IT WON'T JUST BE MUTANTS THEY'RE WATCHING AFTER *THIS* ONE, MS MARVEL. THIS IS THE STRAW THAT BROKE THE *CAMEL'S BACK.* YOU MARK MY WORDS.

*YOU THINK?*

ARE YOU *KIDDING* ME? AFTER *PHILLY* GETTING BOMBED, THE HULK TRASHING *VEGAS*...*WOLVERINE* SAYING HE WAS GONNA KILL *THE PRESIDENT?*

THIS IS THE START OF THE *WITCH HUNTS*, HONEY. THEY'LL BE COMING AFTER US WITH *TORCHES* AND *PITCHFORKS.*

YEAH, WELL. MAYBE THEY'RE *RIGHT* THIS TIME, GOLIATH...

WHO THE HELL CAN JUSTIFY *THIS?*

A BAN ON SUPER HEROES? WELL, IN A WORLD WITH THOUSANDS OF SUPER-VILLAINS THAT'S OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE, LARRY.

BUT TRAINING THEM UP AND MAKING THEM CARRY BADGES? YES, I'D SAY THAT SOUNDS LIKE A REASONABLE RESPONSE.

OH

...AND SO WE ASK YOU, LORD, FOR YOUR MERCY. NOT ONLY FOR THE SOULS OF THE CHILDREN WHO PERISHED, BUT FOR THE SUPER-PEOPLE WHOSE CARELESSNESS *CAUSED* THIS TRAGEDY.

STAMFORD MEMORIAL SERVICE TODAY 11 - 1 PM

TONY STARK?

YOU FILTHY PIECE OF CRAP!

MA'AM, PLEASE. WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE.

LEAVE *WHAT?* MY OWN SON'S *FUNERAL? STARK'S* THE ONE YOU SHOULD BE DRAGGING AWAY.

MA'AM, I APPRECIATE THAT YOU'RE UPSET, BUT THE NEW WARRIORS' *RECKLESSNESS* HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH *ME.*

OH, YEAH? AND WHO FINANCES *THE AVENGERS?* WHO'S BEEN TELLING KIDS FOR YEARS THAT THEY CAN LIVE OUTSIDE THE LAW AS LONG AS THEY'RE WEARING *TIGHTS?*

COPS HAVE TO *TRAIN* AND *CARRY BADGES*, BUT THAT'S TOO *BORING* FOR *TONY STARK*.

NAH, *JOE BILLIONAIRE* HERE SAYS ALL YOU NEED ARE SOME POWERS AND A BADASS ATTITUDE, AND YOU CAN HAVE A PLACE IN HIS PRIVATE *SUPER-GANG*.

SOMEBODY GET HER OUTTA HERE...

YOU *FUND* THIS SICKNESS, STARK. WITH YOUR DIRTY BILLIONS.

THE BLOOD OF MY LITTLE DAMIEN IS ON YOUR HANDS RIGHT NOW.

I HOPE YOU'RE *GETTING* ALL THIS, PARKER.

...LIKE SPEEDBALL, FOR EXAMPLE. NOBODY LIKES TO SPEAK ILL OF THE DEAD, BUT HERE WAS A BOY WHO, BY ALL ACCOUNTS, COULDN'T EVEN NAME THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THEIR POWERS CAN BE AS AWESOME AS NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BILL. SHOULDN'T THEY BE *TESTED* BEFORE THEY'RE ALLOWED TO WORK IN OUR COMMUNITIES?

IS IT TIME FOR SUPER HEROES TO BE REGISTERED?

CNN

THINGS TURN UGLY:

YMCA

DOLLAR AM

HEY, BABY. SORRY I'M LATE, BUT I HAD TO RESCUE A BUNCH OF CUTE KIDS FROM A BURNING ORPHANAGE ON THE WAY OVER HERE.

IS THAT *TRUE*, JOHNNY, OR ARE YOU JUST MAKING STUFF UP AGAIN SO I DON'T GET *MAD* AT YOU?

WELL, SWAP "*ORPHANS*" FOR "*BABES*" AND "*BURNING BUILDING*" FOR "*SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS*" AND IT'S *COMPLETELY* TRUE, SWEETIE.

*CHICO!* HOW'S IT *HANGING*, BIG MAN?

PARIS AND LINDSAY ARE WAITING UPSTAIRS, JOHNNY. CHICKS COULDN'T *BELIEVE* IT WHEN I SAID YOU WERE DROPPING BY.

HEY! HOW COME THAT LOSER'S GETTING IN WHEN WE'VE BEEN WAITING *HOURS?*

TELL YOU WHAT, GORGEOUS: NEXT TIME *YOU* SAVE THE WORLD FROM GALACTUS, YOU CAN BORROW MY *FREE PASS*, 'KAY?

WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT TIME YOU BLOW UP A SCHOOL, JACKASS?

YEAH, WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT TIME YOU KILL SOME *KIDS?*

WHAT?

MAN, YOU GOT A *NERVE* SWAGGERING AROUND TOWN AFTER *THAT*. I WAS YOU, I'D BE ASHAMED TO *GO OUTSIDE*.

HELL ARE YOU *SHRIEKING* ABOUT, TUBBY? I GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH SPEEDBALL OR THE NEW WARRIORS. THOSE GUYS WERE C-LIST, *TOPS*.

*BABY-KILLER!*

JOHNNY, I DON'T *LIKE* THIS. I WANT TO GO HOME.

KLEEEEH!

*JOHNNY!*

HOLD HIM DOWN! HOLD HIM DOWN!

--HUMAN TORCH, THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF ATTACKS ON NEW YORK'S SUPER-COMMUNITY. MORE AT ELEVEN, PLUS THE GROWING PRESSURE ON THE PRESIDENT--

--THE PEOPLE OF STAMFORD ASK: WHAT ARE HIS PROPOSALS FOR SUPER HERO REFORM?

BRYAN DEEMER

THE BAXTER BUILDING:

SO WHAT ARE THEY SAYING, DOCTOR RICHARDS?

THAT I'LL BE FORCED TO BECOME A *FEDERAL EMPLOYEE* OR FACE A WARRANT FOR MY *ARREST?*

ACTUALLY, YOU WERE ONE OF THE FEW *POST-HUMANS* THEY'RE HOPING TO SEEK A COMPROMISE WITH, STEPHEN.

*PENSION PLANS* AND *ANNUAL VACATION TIME?* IT'S *RIDICULOUS.* WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO DO? TURN US INTO *CIVIL SERVANTS?*

LOOKS TO ME LIKE THEY'RE *CLOSING US DOWN,* WASP.

OR MAKING US MORE LEGITIMATE. WHY SHOULDN'T WE BE BETTER-TRAINED AND PUBLICLY ACCOUNTABLE?

SOMEBODY SAID WE SHOULD GO ON ***STRIKE*** IF THEY MESS WITH US LIKE THIS. DOES ANYBODY ELSE THINK THAT'S A GOOD IDEA?

NO, AH...IT'S ***PATRIOT***, RIGHT? NO, I DON'T THINK ANYONE HERE COULD SERIOUSLY ADVOCATE A SUPER HERO STRIKE, SON.

SO WHAT'S THE GENERAL CONSENSUS?

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, STAMFORD WAS OUR WAKE-UP CALL. WHAT ALCOHOLICS REFER TO AS A MOMENT OF CLARITY.

BECOMING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES MAKES **PERFECT SENSE** IF IT HELPS PEOPLE SLEEP A LITTLE EASIER.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ***HEARING*** THIS. THE MASKS ARE A ***TRADITION***. WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM TURN US INTO ***SUPER-COPS***.

ARE YOU KIDDING? WE'RE LUCKY PEOPLE HAVE TOLERATED THIS FOR AS LONG AS THEY HAVE, SAM. WHY ***SHOULD*** WE BE ALLOWED TO HIDE BEHIND THESE THINGS?

BECAUSE THE WORLD AIN'T SO ***NICE*** OUTSIDE YOUR IVORY TOWER, BUB.

***TELL*** ME ABOUT IT, STUMPY. YOU THINK JOHNNY WOULD HAVE ENDED UP IN THE HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT IF MORONS LIKE YOU WASN'T OUT THERE GIVIN' US A ***BAD NAME?***

WHO KNOWS? BUT IF THEY'RE FORCING EVERYBODY TO WORK FOR *UNCLE SAM*, I THINK A WHOLE LOTTA PEOPLE MIGHT JUST HANG UP THEIR *TIGHTS*.

SPIDER-MAN!

THE *SECRET IDENTITY* THING ISN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL. THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAVE BEEN PUBLIC SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING, AND IT'S NEVER REALLY BEEN A *SERIOUS CONCERN*.

YEAH, WELL...NOT UNTIL THAT DAY I COME HOME AND FIND MY WIFE IMPALED ON AN *OCTOPUS ARM* AND THE WOMAN WHO RAISED ME BEGGING FOR HER *LIFE*.

UH, DOES ANYBODY ELSE THINK WE'RE BEING A LITTLE *PARANOID* HERE? AFTER ALL, THIS IS ALL STILL JUST *SPECULATION* AT THE MOMENT, *RIGHT?*

NO, THIS HAS BEEN BUILDING UP FOR A *LONG TIME*, NIGHTHAWK. STAMFORD'S JUST THE STRAW THAT *BROKE* THE *CAMEL'S BACK*.

THIS IS THE *END* OF THE WAY WE DO *BUSINESS*.

YOU CAN SMELL IT IN THE *AIR*.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER,
SIX MILES ABOVE NEW YORK:

CAPTAIN.

COMMANDER HILL.

I'M TOLD THAT TWENTY-THREE OF YOUR FRIENDS ARE MEETING IN THE BAXTER BUILDING RIGHT NOW TO DISCUSS HOW THE SUPER-PEOPLE SHOULD RESPOND TO THE PRESIDENT'S BIG SOLUTION.

YOU THINK THEY'RE GOING TO GO FOR IT?

I DON'T THINK THAT'S FOR ME TO *JUDGE.*

C'MON, ROGERS. CUT THE CRAP. WE'RE NEVER GOING TO BE TIGHT LIKE YOU AND NICK FURY, BUT I'M STILL THE ACTING HEAD OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

RESPECT THE BADGE IF NOTHING ELSE.

I THINK THIS PLAN WILL SPLIT US DOWN THE MIDDLE.

I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE US AT *WAR* WITH ONE ANOTHER.

WHAT'S THE *MATTER* WITH THESE GUYS? HOW CAN ANYONE ARGUE WITH SUPER HEROES BEING *PROPERLY TRAINED* AND *PAID* FOR A LIVING?

HOW MANY REBELS DO YOU ESTIMATE HERE, CAPTAIN?

A LOT.

ANY MAJORS?

A FEW, BUT MOSTLY THE HEROES WHO WORK CLOSE TO THE STREETS LIKE *DAREDEVIL* AND *LUKE CAGE.*

SO NOBODY YOU CAN'T HANDLE?

EXCUSE ME?

YOU HEARD.

THIS PROPOSAL GOES TO A VOTE IN TWO WEEKS' TIME AND COULD BE LAW IN AS LITTLE AS A MONTH. BUT WE CAN'T GO IN HALF-COCKED.

WE'RE ALREADY DEVELOPING AN ANTI-SUPERHUMAN RESPONSE UNIT HERE, BUT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THE AVENGERS ARE ONSIDE AND THAT YOU'RE OUT THERE *LEADING* THE AVENGERS.

FORGET ABOUT IT.

YOU'RE ASKING ME TO ARREST PEOPLE WHO RISK THEIR LIVES FOR THIS COUNTRY EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK.

NO, I'M ASKING YOU TO OBEY THE WILL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, CAPTAIN.

DON'T PLAY *POLITICS* WITH *ME*, HILL. SUPER HEROES NEED TO STAY *ABOVE* THAT STUFF OR WASHINGTON STARTS TELLING US WHO THE *SUPER-VILLAINS* ARE.

I THOUGHT SUPER-VILLAINS WERE GUYS IN MASKS WHO REFUSED TO OBEY *THE LAW*.

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

IS THIS THE HIT SQUAD YOU'VE BEEN TRAINING TO TAKE DOWN HEROES?

NOBODY WANTS A WAR, CAPTAIN. THE PEOPLE ARE JUST SICK AND TIRED OF LIVING IN THE WILD WEST.

MASKED HEROES HAVE BEEN A PART OF THIS COUNTRY FOR AS LONG AS ANYONE CAN REMEMBER.

SO'S *SMALLPOX*. NOW GROW UP AND STOP BEING AN *IDIOT*, HUH? NOBODY'S SAYING YOU CAN'T DO YOUR JOB.

IT'S JUST TIME YOU WENT *LEGITIMATE* LIKE THE *REST* OF US, SOLDIER.

*WEAPONS DOWN*, BOYS.

*STAND YOUR GROUND*, GENTLEMEN. CAPTAIN AMERICA IS *NOT* IN COMMAND HERE.

WEAPONS *DOWN* OR I WILL *NOT* BE RESPONSIBLE FOR *WHAT COMES NEXT*...

*TRANQUILIZERS ON*, BOYS. GET READY...

THIS IS *INSANE*! COMPLETELY *INSANE*.

DAMN YOU TO *HELL* FOR THIS, HILL...

DAMN YOU TO HELL FOR *MAKING* ME DO IT...

TRANQUILIZERS! NOW!

AGHN!

=SSZT=

UNH!

TAKE HIM DOWN! TAKE HIM DOWN!

DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT IT, LITTLE MAN...

MARIA HILL TO ALL UNITS: STOP CAPTAIN AMERICA! I REPEAT: STOP CAPTAIN AMERICA!

BRAKA
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WAR-HAWK ONE, YOU ARE CLEAR TO LAND. OVER.

ROGER THAT, BASE-COMMAND, BUT WHAT'S THE SITUATION WITH THE GROUND-TEAM DOWN THERE?

SHADUNK!

JEEZUS!

KEEP FLYING, SON--

--AND WATCH THAT POTTY MOUTH!

CLOSE THE DOORS! CLOSE THE DOORS! SOMEBODY GIVE ME A *HAND* HERE, HUH?

LOOK OUT!

YOU IDIOT.

WE WERE TRYING TO SAVE LIVES.

THE BAXTER BUILDING:

UM, AM I THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO CAN SEE A BIG, DOME-HEADED GUY STARING AT EVERYBODY?

HIS NAME IS THE WATCHER, SPIDER-WOMAN, AND HE ONLY APPEARS TO RECORD MOMENTS OF GREAT CHANGE AND ENORMOUS UPHEAVAL.

HIS PRESENCE NOW DOES NOT BODE WELL.

WASHINGTON, D.C.:



NO, THE FACT THAT CONGRESS HAS RESPONDED SO **SWIFTLY** JUST PROVES WHAT AN EFFECTIVE POLITICAL OPERATOR MIRIAM SHARPE HAS **BECOME.**

SHE AND THE **OTHER** STAMFORD REFORMISTS HAVE REALLY TAPPED INTO AMERICA'S QUIET DISCOMFORT WITH **SUPERHUMAN MISBEHAVIOR** HERE...

CBE 24

...AND THEN HE LANDED THE JET IN A ***FOOTBALL FIELD*** BEFORE TAKING THE PILOT FOR A ***HAMBURGER AND FRIES.***

AIN'T THAT JUST LIKE CAPTAIN AMERICA? MAKING SURE A TWO-BILLION-DOLLAR ***WARPLANE*** DON'T GET DAMAGED NO MATTER ***HOW*** MUCH TROUBLE HE'S IN?

I'M GLAD YOU THINK THIS IS ***FUNNY***, MISTER SECRETARY. BECAUSE I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT OUR ***REGISTRATION*** PLAN WAS ***CONTROVERSIAL ENOUGH.***

CAP GOING UNDERGROUND MEANS EVERY SUPER HERO WHO DISAGREES WITH US SUDDENLY HAS A FIGUREHEAD.

WHAT ARE YOU *SUGGESTING*, MISTER STARK?

*THEN WE FIND OURSELVES A LEADER OF OUR OWN, SIR.*

*YOU PUSH AHEAD WITH REGISTRATION AS PLANNED, GENTLEMEN.*

*LEAVE CAPTAIN AMERICA TO US.*